T E L E G R A P H H I L L B U L L E T I N

Number 7 January 1968

HOW FAR CAN YOU ROLL A CARTWHEEL CHEESE (hard Monterey)? Do you know a monkey---with organ grinder? Have you either talent or brawn, or even both, to help with decorations for the big

MARTEDI GRASSO CARNEVALE *** SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

2-5 p.m. Festivities in Washington Square

8:15 p.m. Parade through North Beach

9 p.m. Grand Martedi Grasso Ball, Fugazi Hall, 678 Green St.

All North Beach-Telegraph Hill is putting forth great effort and enthusiasm to raise money for the Beautification of Washington Square---and to have fun doing it. Municipal bulldozers move in by mid-February to tear up the Square and put it back together again following the Master Plan submitted last summer by the ten North Beach organizations (including the Telegraph Hill Dwellers). The Recreation and Park Department's budget can allot only $50,000 to this project, or enough for only very basic landscaping and construction. For the first time, however, a community in this city is taking the initiative to raise private funds to supplement a public project.

The Carnevale will, we hope, be a magnificent swansong to the old dilapidated park --- and a source of at least $6000 to beautify the new Square. Visions are even circulating among more imaginative minds, should this first Carnevale be as successful as now expected, of an annual North Beach Mardi Gras to rival New Orleans'.

In Italy Martedi Grasso is traditionally celebrated with splendid pageants, masquerades, dancing and other festivities. King Carnevale comes to Venice as a fat straw man filled with firecrackers to celebrate a merry reign but a brief one: he is burned at midnight in the Piazza San Marco.

In North Beach the celebration February 15 begins in Washington Square. From 2-5 p.m. there will be a bocce ball game, cheese-rolling contest (requires considerable skill and strength, but there will be a special amateur class), folk dancing, accordian and band competitions, and other festivities. We hope city employees will put on one of their cable car decorating contests for the occasion. For more information on afternoon activities please call Florence Scott, GA 1-6752.

The Parade, led by North Beach's Carnevale King, Bill Raffetto, starts at 8:15 p.m. from Columbus and Filbert. Gaily costumed paraders will march down Columbus to Broadway, turn right to Stockton, then to Green St. and Fugazi Hall, 678 Green, where the grand Martedi Grasso Ball will take place. (Costumes desirable, masks essential and available at the door.)

Tickets for the ball, $2.50 per person, may be purchased at the door, or better still, ordered in advance from either Grace Duhagon, DO 2-6423, or Dennis Flynn, DO 2-0751.

Fugazi Hall, donated by the owners for this occasion, has two floors for dancing and merrymaking. Upstairs the Italian theme will predominate, with the band Scacciapensieri ("Toss your cares to the wind") playing popular dance music. The Mad Twenties will reign beneath with a jazz band. (Nick Circosta is providing both bands.) Spuntino (snacks) donated by various North Beach restaurants will be free. Drinks: reasonable. Belfast Beverages is donating all mixes and soft drinks--plus four portable bars. The bars themselves will be manned by a succession of celebrity bartenders, among them: Vito Lucchesi and Dino Lazzeraschi of the Montclair, Frank Marionetti of Fior d'Italia, Joe Vanessi of Vanessi's, Art Petri of Owl 'n Turtle, Joe Paoli of Paoli's, Fred Landi of Tosca, and Fred Kuh of Old Spaghetti Factory. As we go to press, Bocce Ball, Bimbo's and Sinaloa have definitely offered entertainment acts towards the success of the evening. Mrs. Elmo De Martini has a charming group of young ladies to help hostess.

But Important Donations, of course, are the personal contributions of time and energy by such individuals as dance co-chairmen Undersheriff John P. Figone, Grace Duhagon, Dennis Flynn, and A. "Bimbo" Guintoli; A. Boyd Puccinelli, Giulia Besozzi, Alessandro Baccari, Jr., Peter Macchiarini, and many others. Jim Robertson is designing posters to be plastered around town during the coming weeks. Others are hand-painting posters.
Where can we Hill Dwellers help? Decorations---both the artistic ideas and the brawn to carry them out. Instructors and students of the Rudolph Schaeffer School of Design are undertaking much of the planning, but they need help. Please call Dennis Flynn, DO 2-0751.

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NEW UNION GROCERY (or SPEEDIES to most of us) offers fresh fruits and vegetables, the best cuts of meats, and liquor and wine--including the famous Telegraph Hill wines (wonderful gifts to non-Hill Dwellers). Ask for their current specialty: Leon's own home-made pork sausage. 301 Union, corner of Montgomery. Call EX 2-9638 for Free delivery. (adv.)

CULTURE ON THE HILL- "San Francisco loves its Bright Young People, and will do anything for them -- except, of course, to read their writing, look at their pictures, or listen to their music," writes Bruce Bliven in his clever if sometimes snide and even challengeable article, "San Francisco; New Serpents in Eden", (January Harper's Magazine). Telegraph Hill and North Beach are source and mecca for these "Bright Young People". To help you refute Bliven's statement, "as a public service" we present a schedule of local art galleries, then a partial list of Hill residents currently publishing.

ART GALLERIES -

East West: Rudolph Schaeffer School, 350 Union Street, EX 2-8388. 12-9 p.m. Open only by appointment Friday night and weekends.

L'Envoi: 468 Green (in front of Old Spaghetti Factory). 6-10 p.m. weekdays, 4-12 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday. Neil Stark (painter) & Associates: Ron Dawson, mosaics; Bob Mc Farland, painting & sculpture; Heidi Putzker, children's art; Will Speer, pottery; Laura Wilson, sculpture & pottery. Gallery currently being renovated. Everyone from the Hill invited to grand reopening Sat. Feb. 1, 4-12 p.m.

Loggia: The Attic, 153 Columbus, EX 7-0215. 3-10 p.m. Closed Monday. Madelaine Gillend & Jean-François Landrevie, owners. Six Montana artists through Jan. 28th. Dorr Bothwell, Lithographs, & Ruth Cravath, sculpture, open Feb. 2.

Telegraph Hill: 1317 Grant. EX 7-1387. 5-10 p.m. weekdays. Mr. & Mrs. Jack Weidele, owners. Paintings by Betty Almeida, Ray Boynton, Dick Faralla, Jean Halpert-Ryden, Shee Kwan Tong, Charles Warden, Jack Weidele, Gary Woo (Whitney Award, 1957). Sculpture by David Green. Pottery by Ross & Eileen Curtis.

Triangle: 267 Columbus. GA 1-6312 or GA 1-1491. Thurs. & Fri. 7-10 p.m., Sat. 2-5 p.m., or by appointment. Gerald Mason Feigen, R. H. Godfrey, Herbert Wasserman, owners. Paintings by John K. Peterson through Feb. 7. Drawings of San Francisco and Paris by Peter N. Smith, Feb. 8-28.

AUTHORS, CURRENT PUBLICATIONS -

Conrad, Barnaby: Gates of Fear, Thomas Y. Crowell, N.Y.C. Death of Manolete, Houghton Mifflin, (April).

Faier, Billy: Book of Folksongs scored for voice and 5-string banjo. Hargail Music Co., N.Y.C. (Spring). Record: Art ot the 5-String Banjo, Riverside label, plus another still untitled record due this spring.

Gilliam, Harold: San Francisco Bay. Doubleday.

Grieg, Michael: Guide to the City, a book of poems on San Francisco. Black Hand Press, San Francisco.

Kellogg, Rhoda: The How of Successful Fingerpainting, (for parents and teachers). Feardon Publishers, San Francisco (March).

Myrick, David: Introduction to reprint of Thompson & West's History of Nevada, reprinted by Howell-North Press, Berkeley.

Newman, Grace West; Warner, John; Williams, Constance: Collection of previously unpublished songs of Trinidad. (Not the so-called calypso currently in vogue). Words and music. Hargail Music Co., N.Y.C.

O'Sullivan, Padrice Suemus: Weep Not, My Children, a book of poems. The Shannon Press, S.F.

Warner, John: "As in Levitious", story in summer issue of Quixote.

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THE OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY CAFE AND EXCELSIOR COFFEE HOUSE, 478 Green, (GA 1-0221) dispenses and light steam beer plus domestic and imported beers and wines from its magnificent mahog-y bar. Special dinner ($1.75), sandwiches, snacks, caffe espresso, even spaghetti. Fine -fi, exhilarating decor. Hours daily: 5:30 p.m.- 1:45 a.m.; meals, 6-10 p.m.; food served Fri. & Sat. till 1 a.m.; Sunday special: noon-1:45 a.m. (adv.)

POWER AND TELEPHONE LINES along upper Montgomery street should all be underground this month, PG&E promises. Next problem: removal of poles elsewhere on the Hill. Ken and Marion Evers a other Hill Dwellers got a sympathetic hearing before the Supervisors' Streets Committee (Blake, Halley and McAteer) and later with Public Works Director Sherman Duchel. A present ordinance requires PG&E to put only 2½ miles of wires underground per year, and we may have to wait in line until 1961. It was indicated, however, that if we can "demonstrate urgency" we might get our program accelerated. A petition will soon be circulated among property owners formally requesting the city to allow earlier pole removal on the Hill by means of three stages. Stage One: Telegraph Hill Blvd. to Lombard to Chestnut; and Kearny and Chestnut streets on the northeast corner of the Hill.

LOCAL COLOR, 1414 Grant, YU 2-1977. Fine gifts from all the world. Jewelry by Gretchen McAllister, ceramics, handmade Ernst ties, belts by Outen, weird and wonderful toys, gift wrapping. Great selection of beautiful and/or amusing cards for all occasions. 12-6 p.m. except Sunday & Monday. (adv.)

FUTURE FREEWAYS threaten even Telegraph Hill's seeming impregnability, attorney Kamini Kant Gupta told the Jan. 15 Hill Dwellers' meeting. Gupta is president of the Marina Merchants' n., and chairman of the Municipal Affairs Committee, Central Council of Civic Clubs. The olo northeast area of San Francisco is menaced by "irresponsible freeway plans to segment contiguous neighborhoods with concrete walls", he said. Thus a freeway separating Telegraph Hill-North Beach from adjoining districts would chop up, isolate and ultimately decimate this now prosperous area. Such projects are not slated to begin for several years, Gupta admitted, but he believes property owners and other citizens' groups must be prepared to present their claims effectively before freeway planning boards.

Telegraph hill bulletin, Number 7, January 1958

Page 3 missing

SIGN OF THE PAN PIPES, 1318 Grant, GA 1-8696. Unusual folk music: American, Chinese, Italian, Irish, etc. on Elektra, Riverside and Folkways labels. Three records under own Pan Piper label: Dutch, Israeli, and American Round Dances. Largest selection of recorders outside NYC, including famous Swiss Kung recorders. Hours: 12-7 p.m. Grace West Newman, owner. (adv.)

PARKING AND RESTAURANT: Telegraph Hill's"East Side" residents have very peculiar parking problems, unappreciated by those who live elsewhere, and apparently unappreciated by the two restaurants which add greatly to the problems. Many "streets" here exist only on paper: the only access to over 120 dwelling units is by long steep flights of stairs which even the sportiest sports car can't maneuver. These cliffdwellers must compete with the 450 residents of the 2½ block section of Montgomery St., their friends and deliverymen, tourists--and restaurant patrons---for a paltry 157 public parking spaces.
When The Shadows, Carl Redman's restaurant, burned down in Dec. 1950, some residents, pointing to the 1921 zoning law, protested rebuilding. Another group, whose sympathetic attitude was influenced by the availability of parking places in those days (Alta Street was less developed), circulated an opposing petition favoring rebuilding. They since regret their action. "Redman said he would arrange to park patrons' cars in a garage at Grant avenue and Filbert street if the city would release his building permit" (S.F. Chronicle, 1-31-51). The Board of Permit Appeals released his permit with a margin of one vote.
At first reasonable parking conditions existed. Later, indifference on the part of management of both restaurants was reflected in the abusive attitude of their parking attendants. Some Shadows' attendants have been cooperative with residents, but others consistently take over the few available public parking spaces. Residents and their guests have encountered hostility, abusive language and even threats of physical violence from attendants of both restaurants.
What to do? In desperation many citizens park in red zones--and get fined. One young lady spent several days in jail for parking tickets incurred on the Hill...Thanks to Supervisor Ferdon some unnecessary red zones were removed. Recently, however, The Shadows wangled two "curb-loading" spaces---and uses them instead for parking while their unloading continues to block Montgomery St...Irate residents, tired of finding Shadows' cars illegally parked in their customary spaces on Kearny, simply switched Shadows' parking identification tags. The confusion was magnificent--and effective...Many residents refuse to patronize either restaurant and likewise discourage their friends...This whole situation is wrong, unnecessary, and could be alleviated by compliance with past promises and a more neighborly attitude on the part of both restaurants.

SPECIALLY DESIGNED OAK FIREWOOD for small fireplaces, Franklin stoves, etc. Packed in heavy pine boxes which burn too---or make good basement shelving. A better buy than Presto-logs, and a better fire. $1.00 per box delivered. SU 1-0426 or EX 7-1598 evenings. (adv.)

IMPROVEMENT: The Hill Dwellers came into being several years ago in part to forestall a threat to condemn this area as a slum. (We're not blighted: we're just picturesque!) Many property owners and imaginative tenants work hard to improve their buildings. Even a coat of paint does wonders. But laggards persist. The worst offenders are those few individuals, groceries and other small enterprises whose trash and garbage continues to litter curbs and sidewalks. A THD committee is currently being formed to encourage everyone to cooperate in improving the appearance of our Hill in all ways.

LITTLE CITY MIMEO, 658 Vallejo, YU 2-7049. Mimeographing, Multilith (offset), Printing, typing and other office services: Addressograph, folding, mailing service. Party invitations that are different. Meticulous work done by Joe Gigliotti and staff. Open from 9:00-6 p.m. except Sunday. (adv.)

DUES payable April 1st, but welcome now. Please consider this your notice, so our overworked treasurer, Dennis Flynn, already deeply involved in Carnevale preparations, won't have to spend time and money sending you additional bills. Before you forget, please send $1.00 to Dennis Flynn, 516 Filbert.
So far $115 has come to Dennis for our contribution towards the Beautification of Washington Square. Fine--but our goal is still $600 for a sandbox. Even a dollar-contribution helps. You can send dues and contribution in the same envelope and save 3¢.